(b) The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) advertised for the posts of Assistant and Personal Assistant for the unreserved category as well as vacancies for SC/ST/OBC persons in Employment News of 19th February, 2000. The test for the posts of Assistant was conducted on 18.3.2001. The Hon'ble High Court has stayed action to fill up the vacancies of Assistant on a writ filed by the employees of the NCERT. As regard filling up the post of Personal Assistant, a test is scheduled to be conducted in January, 2002.

Yoga education in schools

†693. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to impart regular yoga education to children in schools all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) to (c) The National Curriculum Framework for School Education brought out by NCERT recommends yoga as a part of the health and physical education. The National Curriculum Framework has been circulated to all the State Governments/UTs for implementation of the suggestions made therein. However, the States/UTs have the freedom to adopt and adapt these curricular guidelines to develop their own syllabi and curricular materials.

History books of NCERT

†694. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that there had been protests regarding history books of NCERT about the factual errors, biases and colouration and that these books show disrespect to various communities and sects; if so, whether it has been removed;

(b) the details of wrongful presentation of history, giving the book-wise and class-wise details, both Hindi and English books;

(c) whether Government have instructed NCERT to delete all references "which hurt religious sentiments of the people"; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether corrected books have been published and made available to students; if not, by when these would be made available to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Class-wise and book-wise details as also pages containing such portions in the identified history text books are as under:—

Book 1 (Ancient India)—Class VI—Romila Thapar, Reprint 2001, pages—40-41.

Book 2 (Modern India)—Class VII—Arjun Dev and Indira Arjun Dev, Reprint 2001, pages—21.

Book 3 (Ancient India)—Class XI—Ram Sharan Sharma, Reprint 2001, pages—7, 20-21, 45, 90—92, 137-138, 240-241.

Book 4 (Medieval India)—Class XI—Satish Chandra, Reprint 2001, pages—237-238.

(c) and (d) NCERT is developing text books anew, based on the new syllabus. Due care is being taken to ensure that these books do not contain any material/reference which is likely to hurt the sentiments of any particular community or religious minority. Introduction of these text books would start beginning next academic session onwards.